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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Political Information: Increase in Renunciations  
of Soviet Citizenship, Tientsin

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1. An increasing number of Soviet citizens are renouncing their Soviet citizenship and applying for Chinese citizenship, reinstatement in the Russian Emigre Association, or simply a stateless status.
2. Previously a person desiring to relinquish Soviet citizenship submitted his request with his passport to the Soviet Consulate; he was then required to fill out forms giving his reasons for this action and answering questions concerning his relatives in the USSR. However, as the number of such relinquishments increased, the Soviet Consulate also increased the length of time required to obtain a release, and sometimes did not acknowledge the receipt of the request. This delay has made it almost mandatory to secure the services of a lawyer, who sends his client's request and passport to the Soviet Consulate via registered mail. He then issues a statement in the form of an advertisement that such action has been taken.
3. Many of the Soviet citizens who are renouncing Soviet citizenship have been held in high esteem by the Soviet officials.
4. Some of the Soviets who have renounced Soviet citizenship are:
  - a. Sava S. Vyazygin. Vyazygin had been an outstanding activist in the Soviet Citizens' Association and was transferred to Shanghai for the purpose of undermining emigre activities there. His father, Sava Mikhailovich Vyazygin, a former staunch Soviet citizen and leading propagandist in the Tientsin area, was repatriated to the USSR in 1947. Recently the son received a letter from his father implying great dissatisfaction with the USSR and hinting that he would not object if his son renounced Soviet citizenship. On 14 July Vyazygin's renunciation became public knowledge.
  - b. J. K. (Y.) Pchelyakov (See [REDACTED])
  - c. Karpinsky (full name unknown) Since his reinstatement as an emigre, however, he has been extremely pro-Soviet.
  - d. A. S. Stepanov. Stepanov was a member of the Temporary Emigre Committee which, after the capitulation of Japan, turned over the property of the emigres to the Soviets, at which time he took Soviet

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citizenship. Stepanov holds a responsible position with the Imperial Chemical Industries (China) Ltd., Belfran Building, 7 Chung Cheng Road. He is presentable in appearance, well-educated, speaks several languages and has good social connections with both Chinese and foreigners. There is a suspicion that his return to emigre status is to conceal his undercover work for the Soviets. His transfer to another city would confirm this suspicion.

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- e. M. F. Smolyanikov (See [REDACTED])
- f. Romanovich (full name unknown) He renounced his Soviet citizenship and has taken Polish papers and registered as stateless with the International Refugee Organization (I.R.O.).
- g. A. N. Stadnik. Stadnik is a wealthy dressmaker and had registered as stateless with the I.R.O. He arrived from Japan in 1936. He had been a member of the Russian Fascist Party in Japan and retained his membership until 1938. His Tientsin address is 196 Victoria Road.
- h. N. Medvedev. Medvedev received Soviet Consulate permission to take Chinese papers to protect his property. A former sailor, he has been a Soviet activist; he is a notorious swindler, card shark and usurer.

5. Some of the Soviets who are contemplating renunciation of Soviet citizenship are:

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- a. K. A. Poririev (See [REDACTED])
- b. The two Mercier brothers (full names unknown)
- c. The two Nulyakov brothers (full names unknown)

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- d. I. Y. Glushkov (See [REDACTED]) A letter from Glushkov's repatriated son has turned the father's intentions against repatriation. However, the mother still expresses her desire to go to the USSR.

6. The attitude of the Tientsin Soviet community with respect to repatriation has been dampened considerably by the receipt of letters from relatives and friends who departed in previous groups. To determine the extent of influence of these letters, the Secretary of the Soviet Citizens' Association (? A. Romanovsky) has instructed the leaders of the various groups to conduct a survey of the Soviet population to find out how many would like to go to the USSR if given the opportunity.

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